

Message Text

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FOL RPT ROME 11536 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN JUL 16

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 11536

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, OCON, AFIN

SUBJ: 69TH FAO COUNCIL RELATIONS WITH THE WFC, IFAD, HAND CGFPI

1. SUMMARY: IN A HALF DAY OF DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 5 JULY 16-THE FAO COUNCIL GENERALLY AGREED THAT, WHILE NONE OF THE MAJOR BODIES PROPOSED BY THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE (WFC, IFAD, AND CGFPI) HAD YET REACHED THEU FULL POTENTIAL, IT WOULD BE PREMATURE AT THIS TIME TO MAKE FINAL JUDGMENTS ABOUT THEIR ABILITY TO DO SO. END SUMMARY

2. ON THE WFC, THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT COMPLIMENTARITY OF ACTION BETWEEN THE WFC AND FAO COULD BEST BE PROMOTED BY CLOSE CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THEIR SECRETARIATS WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO DEFINE A CLEAR AND PRECISE DIVISION OF FUNCTIONS BETWEEN THE TWO BODIES. THE COUNCIL ALSO AGREED THAT, SINCE THE WFC WAS A UNITED NATIONS ORGAN, IT SHOULD BE FINANCED BY THE UNITED NATIONS. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL WAS ASKED TO WORK OUT WITH SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM IMPLEMENTATION OF FULL UN FINANCING STARTING IN JANUARY 1977. THE COUNCIL ACTION PERMITS FAO FUNDING OF THE WFC BEYOND THAT TIME, HOWEVER, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IF NECESSARY. THE COUNCIL ALSO ENDORSED A PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER

\$150,000 TO THE CONTINGENCIES PROVISION OF THE FAO PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET TO FINANCE SUBSTANTIVE WORK BY THE FAO FOR THE WFC.

3. ON THE IFAD, THE COUNCIL'S REPORT INCLUDES THE STATEMENT "THAT IT WAS URGENT TO MOBILIZE THE NECESSARY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO BRING THE PLEDGED AMOUNT UP TO THE TARGET OF \$1,000 MILLION". THE COUNCIL AUTHORIZED THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL TO MAKE AVAILABLE HIS SUPPORT TO THE IFAD, WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT IFAD WOULD WISH TO MAKE COOPERATIVE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS WITH AGENCIES WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE UNITED NATIONS AND PARTICULARLY OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS. DURING THE SESSION, THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY ANNOUNCED ITS WILLINGNESS TO OFFER SPACE AND OTHER SERVICES TO IFAD.

4. REGARDING THE CGFPI, THE COUNCIL EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE OUTCOME OF THE GROUP'S NEXT SESSION, TO BE HELD IN MANILA, SEPTEMBER 22-24. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ANNOUNCED THAT THE CO-SPONSORS OF THE CGFPI (FAO, UNDP AND IBRD) HAD AGREED ON A JOINT DOCUMENT TO BE PRESENTED TO THE CGFIP MEMBERS TO FORM THE BASIS FOR A DISCUSSION ON ITS FUTURE. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL WILL REPORT ON THE CGFPI TO THE FAO COUNCIL IN NOVEMBER WHEN THE MATTER WILL AGAIN BE DISCUSSED.

5. DURING DEBATE ON THIS AGENDA ITEM, FRANCE OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER TO REFORM THE FAO RATHER THAN TO HAVE CREATED NEW INSTITUTIONS IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AFTER THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. TRIDIDAD AND TOBAGO ARGUED THE CGFPI WOULD DUPLICATE WORK ELSEWHERE. MOST OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND LDCS, HOWEVER, URGED THE FAO TO ENCOURAGEMENT TOWARD THE THREE FLEDGING ORGANIZATIONS. FOR HIS PART, DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA SAID HE WAS HAPPY THAT THERE WAS A WFC TO "TAKE CARE OF THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE WORK IN WHICH FAO IS INVOLVED. VOLPE

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